

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission****[Docket No. RP97-182-002]****South Georgia Natural Gas Company;  
Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC  
Gas Tariff**

April 18, 1997.

Take notice that on April 15, 1997, South Georgia Natural Gas Company (South Georgia) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the revised tariff sheets set forth on Appendix A to the filing, in compliance with the Commission's Order No. 587-B and the Commission's March 4, 1997 Order in this docket, to become effective June 1, 1997.

On July 17, 1996, the Commission issued Order No. 587 in Docket No. RM96-1-000 which revised the Commission's regulations governing interstate natural gas pipelines to require such pipelines to follow certain standardized business practices issued by the Gas Industry Standards Board (GISB) and adopted by the Commission in said Order. 18 CFR 284.10(b). The standards govern certain aspects of the following practices of natural gas pipelines: nominations, allocations, balancing, measurement, involving, and capacity release. The revisions shown on the Tariff Sheets filed herewith reflect South Georgia's compliance filing to conform with the GISB standards.

On December 4, 1996, South Georgia made its compliance filing submitting pro forma tariff sheets to comply with Order No. 587. On March 4, 1997, the Commission issued an order in this docket in response to South Georgia's filing. The order required South Georgia to revise and submit its compliance filing for implementation of the approved standards by June 1, 1997.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Regulation. All such protests must be filed on or before May 5, 1997. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public

inspection in the Public Reference Room.

**Lois D. Cashell,**  
*Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission****[Docket No. CP97-238-000]****Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C.;  
Portland Natural Gas Transmission  
System; Notice of Availability of the  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
for the Proposed PNGTS/Maritimes  
Phase I Joint Facilities Project**

April 18, 1997.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on certain of the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. and Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (the applicants) in the above-referenced docket, collectively referred to as the PNGTS/Maritimes Phase I Joint Facilities Project (Phase I Joint Facilities).

The DEIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would have limited environmental impact.

The DEIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities:

- About 66.1 miles of 30-inch-diameter mainline between Dracut, Massachusetts and Wells, Maine;
- About 0.8 mile of 20-inch-diameter pipeline (Haverhill Lateral);
- About 1.1 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline (Newington Lateral); and
- Four meter stations, one tap, and other associated aboveground facilities.

**Comment Procedure***Written Comments*

Any person wishing to comment on the DEIS may do so. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Reference Docket No. CP97-238-000;
- Send two copies of your comments to: Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888

First Street, N.E., Room 1A,  
Washington, DC 20426.

- Mail your comments so that they will be received on or before June 9, 1997;

*Public Meeting Schedule*

Three public meetings to receive comments on the DEIS will be held at the following times and locations:

Date	Time	Location
May 20, 1997	7:00 p.m.	Great Hall, 41 Pleasant Street, Methuen, Massachusetts.
May 21, 1997	7:00 p.m.	Memorial School Gymnasium, 31 West Main Street, Newton, New Hampshire.
May 22, 1997	7:00 p.m.	Wells High School Gymnasium, Sanford Road, Wells, Maine.

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the environmental impacts described in the DEIS. Anyone who would like to speak at the public meetings may get on the speakers list by signing up at the public meetings. Priority will be given to persons representing groups. Transcripts will be made of the meetings.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the DEIS, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will be published and distributed. The FEIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments received on the DEIS.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214). Any person may file a motion to intervene on the basis of the Commission's staff's DEIS (18 CFR 380.10). You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

The DEIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance